



Post Office Box 148535

Nashville, TN 37214-8535

www.tcwpa.org

*“To protect, interpret, and make accessible Tennessee’s surviving landscapes
for the benefit of present and future generations”*

ANNUAL REPORT for 2019

Message from the President

April 2020

Dear Friends of Battlefield Preservation,

Our 2019 Annual Report highlights the work of countless TCWPA members and volunteers working to preserve and interpret Tennessee’s Civil War sites. Whether working in your community to save a battlefield, leading a tour, conducting research, promoting the “Save Our Battlefields” license plate, helping launch the new statewide assessment of battlefields or lastly, providing your financial support with your many generous gifts – you’re all part of the community of preservationists. I join the Board of Directors in recognizing you – our members and friends who inspire our leadership team’s commitment to the cause of preservation. We appreciate you – we appreciate your support!

While 2019 was a year marked by transitions within the organization, we look to 2020 as the year of moving forward with two major goals: to advance the research and site assessments for our statewide preservation plan and conduct a statewide outreach program to expand membership and promote the stories of the Civil War in every county in Tennessee. Please watch for updates on our website and through our emails and social media postings.

We always welcome your comments and suggestions. Please feel free to contact us in writing or by email at info@tcwpa.org.

With appreciation and best wishes,

C. Anthony Hodges, D.D.S.
President

TCWPA Board of Directors 2019-2020

President Dr. Anthony Hodges

Vice-Presidents: Sam Huffman (Finance), Joe Smyth (Secretary), Steve McDaniel

Board Members: Dr. Aaron Astor, Ernie Bacon, Mike Countess, Sam Elliott, Dr. Curt Fields, Steve McDaniel, Lee Millar, Daniel Taylor, Phil Walker, Dr. Lea Williams

Executive Director: Mary Ann Peckham

Assistant Directors: Lee Curtis, Patricia Gray

Advisory Board: Ed Bearss, Myers Brown, Charlie Crawford, Will Greene, Norm Hill, Joan House, Patrick McIntyre, Nina Scall, Emily Parish, Ann Toplovich, Dr. Carroll Van West, Susan Whitaker, Jerry Wooten, Antoinette van Zelm; TN State Representative Sam Whitson; Tennessee's National Battlefield Superintendents: Brad Bennett, Brian McCutchen, Brenda Pennington, Dale Wilkerson. Site Specialists: Fred Prouty, Jim Ogden, Jim Lewis, Jim Weaver.

Leadership Team Transitions

In April 2019, **Lee Curtis**, Asst. Director for Programs, and **Patricia Gray**, Asst. Director for Administration began their service to TCWPA. Previously all assistant director services were combined in one personal services agreement. Lee and Patricia have divided the responsibilities. After long careers with the TN Department of Tourist Development Lee and Patricia bring experience and knowledge of historic sites and interpretation including their extensive role in implementing the statewide Civil War Trails program.

Mike Countess of Cottontown, TN was elected to the Board of Directors at the annual members meeting. Retired from the State of Tennessee where he served as Deputy Commissioner, Director of Policy, and Legislative Liaison for the Departments of Conservation and Agriculture, he now is a policy analyst and consultant for federal/state programs associated with the conservation of agricultural, forest, and cultural resources. Mike is also a Civil War researcher and genealogist who has prepared numerous historical narratives and lectures on the service of Civil War soldiers.

Joining TCWPA's **Advisory Board** during 2019 were **Nina Scall**, TN Wars Commission Program Director who also serves on the Executive Committee; **Jim Ogden**, East TN sites specialist; **Joni House**, Kentucky Representative; and **Susan Whitaker**, American Battlefield Trust.

TCWPA has an ongoing recruitment program for new board members in accordance with its **Board Member Recruitment Policy**. The goal is to build a dynamic and effective management team that is reflective of all Tennesseans, with a broad range of knowledge and skills needed to ensure support of quality programs, and with all having a commitment to engaged and consensus-driven decision making.

The Mission: To Protect, Interpret and Make Accessible Tennessee Civil War Battlefields

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association leadership team continued its mission to protect and preserve Tennessee Civil War Battlefields with emphasis on its educational and preservation grants program. TCWPA gave three grants to community preservation groups including the **Friends of Fort Negley**, the **Historic Masonic Hall Foundation of Franklin**, and **Rippavilla Plantation**. TCWPA also provided grants to the **American Battlefield Trust** to purchase battlefield land at **Stones River** and **Salem Cemetery**.

2019 TCWPA Activities

Recognizing Preservation Leaders

The 2019 Robert A. “Bob” Ragland Award



President Hodges presented the annual **2019 Robert A Ragland** award to **Clay Bailey** of Nashville for his outstanding leadership in the preservation of Fort Negley. Hodges reflected, “Clay was the founding Chair of the Friends of Fort Negley. Serving as the principal spokesperson, Clay led the fight to save the Fort Negley - Greer Stadium area from a proposed multi-use project. For nearly a decade Clay has been tireless in his work to highlight to the **Nashville** community the fort’s role during the Civil War and Reconstruction.” In recognition of Clay’s outstanding work, TCWPA provided a \$500 grant to the Friends of Fort Negley for the continued preservation and interpretation of the site.

2019 Three Star and Preservation Tours

Battlefield Preservation Tour



In April 2019, following the Annual Members Meeting historian Eric Jacobson led a tour of the Spring Hill Battlefield, focusing on challenges preservationists faced in saving the battlefield over the past 25 years.

Three Star Tour – Shiloh Lew Wallace’s March



In October 2019, The Grant and Lew Wallace: A Failure to Communicate Three Star tour followed Lew Wallace’s march to Shiloh. Sites included Snake Creek Valley where Lew Wallace crossed Snake Creek three times, Shiloh Park Ranger Charlie Spearman described Wallace’s misunderstanding with Gen. Grant on the route to take.



On the south side of Snake Creek participants hiked to the creek where Wallace’s men cross after marching 15 miles along their route to the battlefield.

Three Star Tour – East Tennessee Bridge Burnings and Railroad Raids



Photo credit: Ned Jilton II/Kingsport Times News

In December 2019, Bridge Burnings and Railroad Raids Three Star Battlefield Tour was led by historian Jim Ogden. Participants toured sites of Union attacks on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad Bridges near present day Bluff City and Watauga. The tour also explored other sites that were part of the Union’s strategic directive to disrupt the Great Trunk Line Railroad.

2019 Battlefield Preservation Grants

TCWPA gave five grants for the preservation and interpretation of Civil War sites:

- American Battlefield Trust (Stones River and Salem Cemetery)
- Friends of Fort Negley
- Historic Masonic Hall Foundation of Franklin
- Rippavilla Plantation

Annual Gifts and Memberships

TCWPA received \$14,497.00 in annual gifts and membership dues during the past year.

License Plate – Sustainable Funding



TCWPA’s “Save Our Battlefields” specialty license plate income from January 1, 2019-December 31, 2019 was \$21,825. It’s been another banner year for Tennessee’s “Save Our Battlefields” license plate, and we appreciate all who have purchased and renewed the plate. As of the Fall 2019 report there were more than **1200** “Save Our Battlefield” license plates on the road – the **highest number** reported in more than three years. TCWPA recently launched a “**Driving for Preservation – Campaign 2020**” statewide campaign with the goal of encouraging citizens in every county in Tennessee to purchase the plate and display their support for battlefield preservation.

TCWPA 2020 Goals

In support of the mission to protect, interpret, and make accessible Tennessee’s Civil War Battlefields and contributing landscapes, the TCWPA Board of Directors will intensify efforts to complete the statewide preservation plan while continuing its educational outreach with the Three-Star and Preservation Tours. TCWPA will also broaden outreach to more Tennessean’s for membership and support of the “Save Our Battlefields” license plate.

The Battlefield Preservation Planning effort is led by board member Mike Countess, along with team members from across the state. They have evaluated already collected data describing the characteristics of more than **150 battlefields in Tennessee** and developed a comprehensive list of preservation strategies. Once the additional data is collected, opportunities and priorities identified, strategies will be paired with each site. The planning team will also develop a process for updating each site’s status and build a strategic direction for the collective role of sites in preserving and interpreting the story of the Civil War in Tennessee.

As part of TCWPA’s sustainability goal, “Driving for Preservation” Campaign 2020’s goal is to expand the membership base and promote the “Save Our Battlefields” license plate. TCWPA will expand its community and social media outreach. TCWPA will continue to seek license plate photos as part of its monthly e-history news. Preservation supporters have photographed their license plates at 40 sites across the state since we began our monthly e-history emails. The goal in “Campaign 2020” and for the foreseeable future is to feature a site with a license plate photo in every Tennessee county.

TCWPA Financial Report for 2019

TCWPA - Dec 31, 2019 Cash Accounts		\$ 70,613.39
Reserved Accounts		
Grant for Stanley Publication	11,000	
Available for 2020 TCWPA operations		\$ 59,613.39

2019 Income and Expenses

Income:

Membership Dues	2,955
Annual Giving Campaign	5,495
Board Gifts	4,235
Other Donations	660
Pay Pal Donations	1,650
PayPal fee Adjustment	-64
Merchandise sales	10
License Plate Proceeds	21,825
Special Donations	300

Total General Revenue	37,066
-----------------------	---------------

Expenses:

Personal Services	25,900
Travel	739
General Administrative Expenses	1,147
Website Design/Expenses	244
Printing Expense	1,657
Accounting Services	936
Board Directed Grants	3,800
Insurance	757

Total Expense	35,180
---------------	---------------

2019 Income in Excess of 2019 Expense \$1,886.00